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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

CD NO. [REDACTED]

COUNTRY

Iran

DATE DISTR. 13 June 1951

SUBJECT

1. Rescheduling of Army Training for Tribesmen
2. Iranian Army Tribal Training Class in Meshed

NO. OF PAGES 2

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PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)25X1A
DATE OF INFO.SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

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1. [REDACTED] on approximately 11 April 1951, the Marzbani (border guard) unit of Kalat (N37 01'E59 44°) requested a local tribal chief (unspecified) to send again four of the originally selected candidates to attend the training program (conducted by Iranian Army personnel of the 8th Division Headquarters at Meshed) which was scheduled to commence on or about 22 April 1951. The tribal chief refused, on the grounds that the agricultural situation was bad (lack of water and poor crops) and no one could be spared at that time from the hard work facing the tribe.

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2. [REDACTED] however, twenty-three tribesmen attended the training classes. Each man was first given a physical examination and then assigned to clean quarters with a cot and new mattress, pillow, and two blankets. Four regular soldiers assigned to the training group assisted in administration of supplies for the trainees. Each man was told to buy a towel, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, spoon, fork, and two hundred sheets of writing paper on which to take notes. Also each trainee was assessed 750 rials (approximately fifteen dollars) for the purchase of a uniform, including cap.

3. Three meals a day were served in a dining hall and, while breakfast consisted of bread only, students were allowed to purchase tea at a stand located in the barracks area.

4. Captain Arsham (fmu) supervised the training program with the assistance of Corporal Mohammad Abadi. The daily schedule began with calisthenics and marching at 0700 hours. Study classes, which were usually three-hour lecture-discussion periods, covered the following: the operation and maintenance of the 5-shot long Bruni rifle; airplane armament and employment; design and construction of trenches and parapets; deployment of individuals under shell fire; and examination of three kinds of armored vehicles, including a very small, light tank. In addition, each day Captain Nezam-ol-Molk delivered general lectures based on the Koran.

5. The trainees, men of middle age as well as youths, were told that upon completion of their training they would be given assimilated army ranks ranging from the grade of sergeant to that of colonel, depending on their educational background.

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1. [REDACTED] Comment. In reporting the size and type of audience which had ~~seen~~ certain general educational-health films loaned to the Iranian Army by the American Consulate at Meshed, a soldier-courier stated that the films were shown to 60 tribesmen on the evening of 1 May 1951. At a second showing of the same films, the audience was again listed as composed of 60 tribesmen.